

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05932 061524Z

56

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EB-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 OC-06

CCO-00 WRD-01 AF-08 SSM-03 SAM-01 /098 W

----- 025421

R 061452Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 968

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 5932

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, LE

SUBJECT: BEIRUT AIRPORT UNLIKELY TO REOPEN SOON

1. ADEL OSSEIRAN, MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS, INFORMED ME TODAY, JULY 6, THAT HE DOUBTED WHETHER BEIRUT AIRPORT WOULD OPEN SOON. HE SAID THAT HE HAD UNDERTAKEN RESPONSIBILITY TO REOPEN AIRPORT ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO BUT AFTER CHRISTIANS SHELLED AIRPORT ON THIRD DAY, DESTROYING AIRCRAFT, AIRPORT HAD TO CLOSE DOWN.

2. OSSEIRAN NOTED THAT CHRISTIAN PRETEXT FOR SHELLING AIRPORT-- NAMELY, USE OF AIRPORT BY LEFTISTS TO BRING IN ARMS--IS BASELESS. HE SAID WHEN ARMS HAD BEEN BROUGHT IN BY LIBYAN COMMERCIAL PLANE, THEY HAD BEEN DISCOVERED BY AIRPORT AUTHORITIES. THEREUPON, OSSEIRAN SAID HE REFUSED PERMISSION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 05932 061524Z

FOR LIBYAN PLANES TO LAND AT BEIRUT AIRPORT AND CANCELLED ALL

MEA FLIGHTS TO LIBYA.

3. ASSEIRAN SAID HE UNDERSTOOD "COMMANDOS" ARE BUILDING
AIR STRIP AT BISSAIRYE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON BETWEEN TYRE AND
SIDON. ADDITIONALLY, HE HAS HEARD CHRISTIANS HAVE COMMENCED
BUILDING AN AIR STRIP IN KOURA REGION SOUTH OF TRIPOLI.
SEELYE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL DISORDERS, AIRPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BEIRUT05932
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760260-0292
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760789/aaaadapb.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BEIRUT AIRPORT UNLIKELY TO REOPEN SOON
TAGS: EAIR, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006